



PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION



38th DIRECTING COUNCIL
47th SESSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE

Washington D.C., 25-30 September 1995

RESOLUTION

CD38.R12

NEW, EMERGING, AND RE-EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

THE 38th DIRECTING COUNCIL,

Considering the situation in the Region of the Americas with regard to what have been termed emerging infectious diseases and/or the re-emergence of communicable diseases considered to have been under control or in the process of disappearing;

Recognizing the magnitude and gravity of the threat that the risk of propagation of these diseases represents to public health and the economic development of the countries of the Region;

Mindful of the emergency situation presented by dengue hemorrhagic fever in the Hemisphere; and

Having seen the Director's report on these diseases,

RESOLVES

1. To recommend to the Member Governments:

(a) That they strengthen the infrastructure that will permit better performance of the networks for surveillance of communicable diseases, reinforcing early-warning systems and providing for rapid response of prevention and control measures;

(b) That they promote the dissemination of information on the issue to health personnel and to the public at large as part of an enhanced social communication thrust;

(c) That they promote applied research on methods of rapid diagnosis, epidemiology, and prevention.

2. To request the Director:

(a) To promote and support the mobilization of national, subregional, regional, bilateral, and multilateral resources to address this issue;

(b) To promote the establishment of intergovernmental mechanisms to facilitate coordinated action among the countries of the Region;

(c) To encourage the implementation of a regional plan of action that supports the activities of the Member Governments, as resources permit, in the areas of early detection, surveillance, control, and information exchange.

(d) To establish immediately a technical task force to study the feasibility, timeliness, and appropriateness of drawing up a hemispheric plan for the eradication of *Aedes aegypti* as an effective means of controlling dengue and urban yellow fever in the Americas.

3.3. To thank the Director for having taken the initiative of presenting the issue of new, emerging, and re-emerging infectious diseases to the Directing Council.

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